

THE WHIG STANDARD.



"Flag of the free: thy folds shall fly,
The sign of hope and triumph high."

FOR PRESIDENT,
HENRY CLAY,
OF KENTUCKY.

WASHINGTON.

SATURDAY MORNING, APRIL 27, 1844.

Van Buren's opinion of the present Tariff.
The letter published by the Richmond Enquirer places this opinion on record, without equivocation, and it is well to keep it in mind:

"ALBANY, Feb. 28, 1843.

"My Dear Sir—I thank you very kindly for your friendly letter. I HAVE AT NO TIME, NOR ANY WHERE, HESITATED TO EXPRESS MY DECIDED DISAPPROBATION OF THE TARIFF ACT OF THE LAST SESSION, AS WELL IN RESPECT TO THE PRINCIPLE UPON WHICH IT IS FOUNDED, AS TO ITS DETAILS. In good time you will have my views in respect to that and other subjects before the public.

In the mean time, believe me to be, very sincerely, your friend and obedient servant,
MARTIN VAN BUREN."

WHIG STANDARD OFFICE.

The Publication Office of the Whig Standard is now located on Pennsylvania Avenue, between 3d and 4th streets, next door to Beers' Temperance Hotel. Advertisements, &c., will be received there, or at our Printing Office, corner of 10th street.

MR. CLAY.

Mr. CLAY arrived in the city yesterday morning, by the steamer Osceola, from Norfolk, and passed the day at Mrs. Potter's, and in the afternoon took lodgings at the residence of Wm. A. Bradley, Esq.

ANNEXATION OF TEXAS.

In another column will be found an article upon this subject, "statistically considered," from the National Intelligencer, which is worthy of the attentive perusal and serious consideration of Southern men. There are many ways in which the subject may be considered, but not one in which, to our mind, the reasons against, do not far outweigh those in favor of, annexation, at this time; and we are astonished to learn that any considerable portion of the citizens of any of the old States should be in favor of it.

In 1838, when Texas herself applied for admission into the Union, she was rejected; Mr. Forsyth, as Secretary of State under Mr. Van Buren, giving such reasons against it as appeared to be satisfactory to the whole country. Was there any opposition then to the rejection of Texas by Mr. Van Buren? Did "the Democratic party" then come out in favor of annexation, and against the course pursued by their chief? By no means. Did the Whigs feel any remarkable sympathy for Texas then, or did they acquiesce in the decision of the Executive? If they had any excitable feelings on the subject, it seems strange that they should reserve them for an occasion like the present, with the view, apparently, of aiding the wild and disturbing schemes of John Tyler, who has nothing to lose, but everything to gain, by raising a commotion in the country that will de-throne reason, blind the judgment, and let loose the passions of men. Is the heat of a Presidential contest calculated to cool the judgment of the nation, and enable the people to look at the subject calmly? We opine not. Is the present administration the proper one to enter upon the subject, and is it likely to conduct it with that prudence, caution, and discretion, which are necessary, to avoid involving us in quarrels with other nations in regard to it, as Mexico and England? One replies, "Oh, we have nothing to fear from Mexico, and as to England, we want to give her a drubbing, any how." This is easily spoken, very easily; but no man of true courage, patriotism, humanity, and just appreciation of his country's honor or welfare, will make such a remark. It is not the man of real courage who fears nothing, but he who knows nothing.

Suppose we were to have a war with Mexico, what have we to gain? "Texas," yes, *tax* us. Very well; what is it worth? On the other hand, what have we to lose? Our commerce whitens every sea, while Mexico has scarcely a sail upon the ocean; she would at once issue letters of marque and reprisal, and in less than six weeks our coast and the Gulf of Mexico would swarm with privateers. Englishmen, Frenchmen, and every other people, not excepting our own, we fear, would be ready to prey upon our commerce, which would be swept away like the mist before the morning sun. In return for this, however, we should have the glorious, thrice glorious glory of having annexed Texas to the United States—no, we beg pardon—to the dis-United States, for there is nothing more likely to disturb the harmony of the country than the agitation of this question, and the annexation, under present circumstances, of this territory to our already sufficiently extensive country. We know

that there are those in some stations, who ex-claim, in reply to the suggestion that annexation, under present circumstances, will be likely to disturb the harmony of the Union, "who cares? If any of the States dislike it, let them help it and be d—d to them." Is such the language of prudent, cool-headed, wise men and patriots? By no means. It is the language of unthinking, unpatriotic, hair-brained men, who look not to the future, and either cannot see, or are unable to appreciate consequences. A nation may be likened to a family; it is, indeed, a family on a large scale. Now how is it with families? is it not better to preserve peace, harmony, and unity on all occasions? Would the head of a family persist in introducing a new member into it with the certain knowledge that it would forever destroy its peace, unity, and concord? Would he do so when the act must cast dishonor upon him? Certainly not, if he were wise and actuated by right feelings. We beg our readers, and the whole people to look at this subject with calmness and deliberation; and above all, not to allow their feelings to become so enlisted as to blind their judgments in regard to it.

"CONVENTION OF RATIFICATION."

We see in the "Whig Standard" a list of some five hundred names, as appointed Delegates to the Whig gathering to be held in Baltimore. Now we would respectfully ask the Standard what this Convention intends to ratify? as Mr. CLAY said, in his Norfolk speech, that he was not a candidate for the Presidency, and had not given his consent to be so considered."—*Portsmouth (Va.) Old Dominion.*

"What we intend to ratify?" Why the nomination of as sterling a patriot as ever lived—HENRY CLAY. He very probably said he "was not a candidate for the Presidency, and had not given his consent to be so considered," but he did not say he would not be, which alters the case materially. He is of the people—belongs to them—and they will do as they please about it. Are you answered?

We will now ask you a question—who's to be the Locofoco nominee for President? and can he be elected? Be candid for once, and answer plumb up.

If the population of Texas be three hundred thousand, and we should supply articles to the value of only \$20 for each person, there would be an annual trade of six millions of dollars, which in ten years would be increased to more than twenty millions annually. Think of that, Master Brooks. The trade with Texas is of far more importance to us than that of France itself; it is second only to that of Great Britain, for being, as it is, a planting country, its whole supplies of manufactures, dry goods, utensils, household and field, flour, and provisions, will all be furnished by the present States.

The above is from the New York Aurora, the organ of the Tyler branch of the "Democracy," in that city. The annexation of Texas, it thinks, will be of immense advantage to the present States because "its whole supplies of manufactures" will be furnished by them. But is not the reduction of duties (upon the single ground that we can purchase manufactured articles abroad cheaper than at home) also a favorite measure of the "Democracy"?—so much so that they have staked the existence of "the party" upon it? Carry out this measure of reduction, and what becomes of the argument of the Aurora? Texas, with the other States, will then be, at least so far as manufactures are concerned, mere dependencies of Great Britain, France, and Germany. But, then it has been more than intimated that, if we accommodate our tariff laws to the wishes of Great Britain, she will wink at any outrage we may commit upon the weak and defenceless government of Mexico—otherwise, she may take it into her head to forbid the bans, and thereby give us some trouble. Well, there appears to be some reason in this; but, then, what becomes of "the twenty millions annually" which is to flow into the United States from Texas "for manufactures?" Will it not rather flow across the Atlantic, and into the pockets of European manufacturers and merchants?

ALABAMA SENATOR.—We learn that the Hon. Dixon H. Lewis has been appointed by the Governor to fill the vacancy in the Senate occasioned by the resignation of Col. King.

The Charleston Courier of Friday says the Court of Common Pleas was engaged four days in the trial of a case of deep interest to the Israelites of Charleston, involving the right to the possession of the Synagogue. The controversy was between the Reformed Israelites, commonly known as the organ party, and those who were for a strict adherence to ancient rites and usages. His Honor Judge Wardlaw charged the jury late on Thursday evening, and after a few minutes' consultation, they found a verdict for the Reformers.

We learn by the Vicksburg Sentinel of the 10th instant, that Mrs. Caroline Matilda Thayer, an estimable lady, whose contributions in prose and poetry to the Eastern periodicals have earned for her a high literary celebrity, died suddenly at Harrisonburg, Louisiana, a few days previous.—She was the grand-daughter of General Warren, who fell at Bunker Hill, and her only child, worthy of his lineage, while yet a youth, took up arms for Texas, and perished at the storming of the Alamo.

CANADA.—At the last advices the rioting in Montreal continued, though abated in a measure. The works on the Lachine Canal are entirely suspended for the present, and the laborers employed on them are fighting like a parcel of savages.

VIRGINIA ELECTIONS.

The Richmond Whig of yesterday gives a few returns of the election held in Virginia on Thursday last.

In the Richmond Senatorial District, Stanard is elected over Brooke (both Whigs) by about 300 majority. For the House of Delegates, Daniel (Whig) beat Hyde (Loco) 432 votes.

CHESTERFIELD.—The Whigs are beaten in Chesterfield by 46 majority! In 1840, Van Buren carried the county by 289 majority! This, we think is a pretty fair exponent of the feeling of the country at large. If beaten now, which we by no means believe, the Whigs in November, will plant their victorious eagles on the battlements of the Capitol of the United States. The vote is as follows:

Winfree (Loco) - - - 453
Rhodes (Whig) - - - 407
PETERSBURG.—Bolling (Whig) 397; Martin (Loco) 293. This we did not expect! The result we did expect from the "Cockade," but not by such a majority. That gallant and spirited city, the elite of the State, has covered herself with imperishable glory.

HANOVER.—Accounts from Hanover are incomplete, but there is no reason to doubt of Winston's (Whig) election, by an equal majority to last year, and probably an increased or doubled one. This is Mr. Clay's native county, and the contest for it has been most determined, desperate, and doubtful. If the Whigs have carried it, as we believe is the fact, the Baltimore Convention of Ratification should award A BANNER to the Whigs of the NATIVE COUNTY OF HENRY CLAY!

CAROLINE.—The belief is that Broadus (Whig) is elected in this county. If so, a Whig gain, after a severe contest. But we wait for particulars. We believe Broadus elected, without however vouching for it.

POWHATAN.—From this county we have no final returns—none later (when this is written) than 3 o'clock. But we have little or no doubt, that Cocke (Whig) is re-elected by an increased majority. Another most arduous contest.

The Whig also contains a few scattering returns from New Kent, but nothing definite.

FAIRFAX.—It is reported in this city, upon what is conceived to be good authority, that Grigsby (Whig) is re-elected.

MATTHEWS AND MIDDLESEX.—Passengers in the Southern boat state that, in this Delegate district, the Whigs have elected their candidate—a Whig gain.

Since the above was in type, we have conversed with a gentleman who came by the southern boat yesterday, who states that the news of the success of the Whig candidate in Caroline had been confirmed at Richmond; and in Goochland, too, which gave 213 loco majority in 1840, the vote is now so close that it is impossible to tell which candidate is elected.

This looks pretty well for a commencement from Old Virginia.

THE NEW YORK ANTI-TEXAS MEETING.

The New York papers of Thursday are filled with accounts of the great Anti-Annexation meeting on the previous evening at the Tabernacle. The intelligent and respectable of all parties were present, uniting in the condemnation of Tyler's nefarious scheme for retaining the Executive power of the nation. The venerable Mr. Gallatin was present, and gave the full sanction of his great and honored name to the meeting by presiding over its deliberations. Our limits de-bar us the pleasure of presenting the readers of the Standard with more than an outline of the proceedings of the meeting.

Mr. Gallatin, on taking the chair, addressed the meeting, at first in a very feeble voice, but grew more energetic as he proceeded. He condemned the scheme of annexation in the most unqualified terms, as a gross piece of national perfidy and bad faith towards Mexico, with which country we are at peace; said that hitherto the people of the United States had made no attempt to acquire territory by conquest, and that the consummation of such a project would afford lamentable evidence of a deterioration in the moral sentiment of the country. Mr. G. touched upon the subject of slavery, which was recognised by the Constitution, and therefore incumbent upon the Federal Government to leave with the States in which it existed; but he expressed the opinion that it would be inexpedient to extend the institution by the acquisition of new territory in which it existed. He based this opinion upon the ground that slavery, under the Constitution, involves an unequal mode of representation, and to extend it, he argued, would be trenching upon the Constitutional compromise, and do injustice to the North.

Mr. Gallatin was followed by Theodore Sedgwick, Esq., a distinguished supporter of Mr. Van Buren, and by several other gentlemen.

The resolutions reported to the meeting were warmly applauded and unanimously adopted. The harmony of the meeting was in some degree disturbed by a band of contemptible scoundrels, with the notorious Mike Walsh at their head, who had impudently foisted themselves into its midst for the purpose of creating confusion. Though numbering only a dozen or so, they became so turbulent, that nothing but a threat of expulsion could silence them. The reader will require no better evidence of the thorough black-guardism of the wretches than to be informed that they more than once interrupted the venerable Mr. Gallatin with hisses. They should not merely have been expelled, but kicked out.

From the National Intelligencer.

"ANNEXATION" STATISTICALLY CONSIDERED.

We should be glad to have some one explain to us how a large amount of our wealth and population is to be transferred to Texas, without something like an equivalent loss to those older regions of the country from which these resources have been drawn. We have all heard of that bird that pierces its own breast to feed its young; but it never before occurred to us that the rother-pelican must not grow somewhat emaciated, if her brood is to be fattened in that way alone. Experiments have been attempted, too, in re-invigorating the bodies of old people, by transfusing into them the fresh and healthy vital fluid of the young—a process soon found, we believe, to be no help to either party. Here, however, is a still wilder proposition—to transfuse from the only half-filled veins of the old into those of the young, with no loss—nay, with a benefit to the former.

Texas offers a habitable surface probably equal to full one-fourth of the Union as now peopled. To bring it rapidly into settlement and improvement, there must then be something like a proportionate transfer of capital and population: in other words, the reduction of these, throughout the present States at large, must approach to something like the rate of 25 per cent.

Such, however, it is easy to see, will not be the effect in all quarters alike: the depletion will be but slight from certain quarters of the country, and it may be almost total from others. The Northern and Free States will, in general, but send forth thither a few casual wanderers or adventurers from the freer track of Westward migration, now to be left them by the diversion of the great stream flowing out of Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Virginia; while the main and direct drain must be from the Slave States, the inhabitants of which alone are fitted, by climate, pursuits, and institutions, to the new region; so that the exhaustion in question must be almost entirely confined to them, and must operate, of course, upon only about one-third of the Union, whose entire population will therefore only exceed what Texas will swallow up by about the ratio which a third bears to a fourth. It is clear, therefore, that the ebb of population from the Slave States to an unexhausted soil, and a climate far more propitious for the employment of the African laborer, must be very great, and that the Slave States generally must be large losers in the value of the property which migration will leave them.

One step further, however. The process in question will act unequally upon the Slave States themselves, according as slave-labor is now profitable or unprofitable amongst them.—Louisiana, Mississippi, Arkansas, and Alabama, may somewhat vie, in climate and soil, with Texas, and will therefore be less injuriously affected; while the employment of servile labor must be absolutely annihilated in Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North and South Carolina, Georgia, Tennessee, and Kentucky. These contain near two millions of slaves; it is difficult to imagine how any part of them should be kept from leaving them. We make little doubt that the entire black population will be carried off. Of these, one-half may be sold and leave their price behind them: the rest will probably migrate with their owners. It is not difficult to calculate the value of a million of slaves. With them it is safe to say that full a million of the whites will abandon their native seats, carrying with them at least property enough to purchase and to fit for cultivation the lands to which they are to go.—We pretend not to estimate the amount of wealth which will be thus transferred; but it can hardly fail to rise to something like the sum represented by the slaves removed, not sold.

Of a magnitude something like this must be, to the deserted region, this loss of property, stimulated as it will be by not only the charm which the last new-found Hesperia, the latest Land of Promise, has for our people, but by individual and public embarrassments, by debt and heavy taxation. The spectacle will, we have little doubt, approach to that bold figure by which the historians of the day describe the throng that marched to the Crusades, when it was strikingly said that it seemed as if Europe, loosened from its foundations, was about to fling itself upon Asia. Little short of that scene will the Atlantic Slave States present.

So much for the outward operation. But is this all? What becomes of the value of lands, when you take away those who cultivate them? It becomes imaginary or speculative only. More than half the lands of the region in question must evidently go at once out of cultivation. Even what continues to be occupied must greatly depreciate, and probably sink to not more than the Government price of frontier lands, so as to attract an influx of Northern cultivators. By this process alone must the South then repair its depopulation; but not then without visiting in turn, upon the colder States from which it will draw, a repetition of the evil which has laid it waste.

Such—supposing what we can in no manner bring ourselves to suppose—a peaceful occupation of our worthily-obtained acquisition, will be its benefits to the States said to seek this fatal boon. Of the sugar and cotton lands of Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama, it will probably reduce the value one-half; and it will annihilate that of the rest for slave labor altogether.

Nor must we neglect to advert to another economical effect: it will certainly deprive the Government of nearly all revenue from the land sales. If Texas is to be filled up, and the vast breach of continuity in Southern population to be repaired, there can be little or no migration in any other direction.

A gentleman of Louisiana succeeded in extracting oil from the pisirache, or ground nut, equal to the best olive oil. He thinks it may be produced for one half the price of the latter. Another has extracted oil from the bene seed, which he says is as good as olive.

CASPAR HAUSER.—A New York correspondent writes:—"I received a letter the other day from Germany, which states that the fate of the once world-talked of Caspar Hauser, is about to be unfolded. The letter states that he was the legitimate son of the Dowager Grand Duchess, that he was the last male descendant in that line, and was taken out of the way to make room for another family, and finally assassinated.

Mr. Freeman, an eminent American painter, and U. S. Consul at Ancona, is said to have surpassed all the modern painters now in Rome.

A galvanized wire rope, 123 miles long, has just been completed in London. It is intended for electrical communication upon one of the railways.

CONGRESS.

The Senate did not sit yesterday. The House met at 12 o'clock, and the Journal was read; after which, a silence of some minutes prevailed, precedent to the funeral obsequies of the Hon. P. E. BOSSIER, of Louisiana. The President, attended by the Cabinet, came into the Hall, as did also many of the Senators.

The Rev. Mr. RYDER, President of the Georgetown College, officiated as Chaplain, assisted by the Rev. Messrs. Van Horseigh, Donelan, Myers, and others, of the Catholic faith in religion.

The services were of a novel as well as impressive character. At the head of the coffin was placed the image of the Saviour, and on each side candles were burning. The Latin service was read, while the censer was swung to and fro. After this portion of the ceremony was concluded, the officiating Priest walked slowly round the coffin, sprinkling it with holy water, and, following him, another of the Clergy carried the censer.

The Rev. Mr. RYDER then took the Clerk's desk, and delivered an address, taking his text from Maccabees, the greater portion of which consisted of a defence of Catholicity.

Communicated.

COL. BENTON'S PATRIOTISM AND PAY.

The Missouri Republican states that Colonel Benton has received out of the national treasury the round sum of sixty-two thousand three hundred and twenty-eight dollars for his services as Senator. Of this sum, his *per diem* pay for attendance in Congress amounts to twenty-eight thousand nine hundred and twenty-eight dollars, and his mileage pay to thirty-three thousand four hundred dollars. Some people are disposed to wonder at these "facts and figures" of the Colonel. His scientific researches have taught him, that according to the theory of the earth, recognised by all geographers, any given point upon its surface may be arrived at by following, either what is vulgarly thought to be a straight line towards it, or by going in the opposite direction. Thus, if it should be a problem to find the congressional mileage pay route from St. Louis to Washington, an ordinary capacity would be likely to solve it by a line passing across the States of Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, and so on, in the direction of the National road; while a member of Congress of any sprightliness would be likely to discover it in the channels of the great Western thoroughfares, the Mississippi and Ohio rivers. Now mark how Col. Benton's genius soars above the vulgar herd of minds. It is not for an intellect like his to follow the beaten track of plodding humanity—he sets about the solution of the problem in the very way which no one else would have dreamed of. He finds that the golden line of Congressional pay route passes through the antipodes, so that if the vulgar distance between the two places be fifteen hundred miles, he arrives at the golden distance by subtracting fifteen hundred from twenty-five thousand, the earth's circumference, which leaves twenty-three thousand five hundred. Q. E. D.

Some persons may be disposed to question the correctness of this mode of reasoning, but such quibbles can only proceed from shortsighted ignorance, and a total inaptitude to appreciate geometrical truth. What, we would ask, is the value of such knowledge, unless it can be made practically useful? Take, for instance, the above case in reference to mileage pay. Astronomers and navigators, after the lapse of near sixty centuries of study and conjecture and exploration, discovered, at length, that this earth we inhabit is a globe, of no very great extent, compared with the immensity of creation, and that it may be circumnavigated within the space of twelve or eighteen months. This is the geometrical truth. Now, how can the knowledge of it be useful to man, unless it is acted upon practically? And this is what Col. Benton, in his mileage estimates, has been doing—nothing more—this, "the head and front of his offending." It is the province of the philosopher to discover truth; but it is the duty of the legislator to act upon it—to make it practically serviceable to mankind.

ARITHMETIC.

It will be seen by the following letter from Mr. Wethered, the Representative of the Third Congressional District of Maryland, that he has accepted the invitation of the whigs of the Thirteenth ward of this city, a portion of his district, to take his post in the approaching national whig procession, on the "Weaver's Car" of that ward. Mr. Wethered's practical knowledge of the business, and the fact that he is the representative of a district which, more than any other in Maryland, is interested in the protective policy, makes it peculiarly appropriate that he should take the position assigned him among the manufacturers in the approaching great procession.—*Balt. Pat.*

WASHINGTON, April 24, 1844.

My dear friend: In answer to your favor of yesterday, informing me that it is the wish of a portion of my constituents that I should accompany the weaving department in the approaching glorious procession, it affords me great pleasure to say, that the position tendered to me, is of all others the most congenial to my feelings. I therefore accept it, but upon condition, that I shall have the privilege of weaving a part of a coat pattern, to be presented to that consistent friend of the industrial classes, "Harry of the West." I promise you that I will neither make a "wrong draft," a "mispick," nor a "double shot."

With assurances of my high regard, I remain, your friend,
JOHN WETHERED.

To E. L. GRIFFIN, Esq., President, &c.

PREPARE FOR SUMMER.—Now is the time to purify and brace the physical system so as to enable it to bear up against the enervating heats of summer. The condition of the blood at the expiration of winter, owing to active perspiration during that season, and from other causes, is not in a proper state to resist disease, nor are the digestive powers, which are generally overtaxed by the appetite in cold weather in their full vigor. In fact, a change in the state of the animal machine to meet a new climate is as necessary as a change of clothing. To purge from the blood its unhealthy particles, and impart to it a more nutritive character—to give tone to the stomach and expel obstructions from the bowels—in short, to reinforce the whole system for the campaign of summer, there is no preparation so efficacious as SANDS' SASSAPARILLA.

For certificates, and numerous testimonials, see pamphlets and various papers.
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Price \$1 per bottle; 6 bottles for \$5.